

A Note from the CAREER & COLLEGE CENTER Registration 2021

Dear Parents of Juniors:

I am sincerely looking forward to this coming year and getting to know each student better! I am eager to learn about their interests and aspirations and assist them in creating and achieving vocational and college or post high school training goals.

We will encourage your son or daughter to pray about their future, stay focused in their academic pursuits, begin concentrating their energies on the activities they value most, and volunteer in their community and churches. Of course, the COVID19 situation poses challenges. Showing creativity and initiative in their pursuits during this season will speak volumes to college admissions offices and scholarship committees.

I highly recommend visiting college campuses, as getting a feel for “college life” can inspire your student to fully engage in their high school experience. We will continue to expose them to vocational as well as college options throughout the year. Because of the challenges posed by COVID19, colleges across the country and around the world are providing unprecedented virtual experiences for students, as well.

We will be scheduling a career & college knowledge night to share important details pertinent to keeping your student on course for graduation and post-high school success. The date and time will be forthcoming. Becoming familiar now with what lies ahead will reduce stress as the high school years fly by. You may even want to consider joining us for FAFSA & Financial Aid Night this fall to learn about how to find funding for college and other important tips.

Last year was the inaugural year for the Career Readiness Portfolio (CRP) housed on the Career Information System (CIS) website. Completion of the portfolio is a graduation requirement. During each year of high school, there is a list of activities and assignments to complete.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me. I am confident a great year awaits your son/daughter!

Warmly,

Jeanne Schaffner
Counselor

JUNIOR YEAR: OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

This spring juniors will be visiting at least one university as well as taking part in the *Benton County Career Convention*.

Another outstanding opportunity for you and your student is to attend the *National Portland College Fair* or the *West Coast Christian College Fair* which will likely be virtual this year. Please be on the lookout for announcements about these and other valuable experiences.

We will also be providing opportunities for students to meet with college admissions staff from many colleges as well as providing career exposure opportunities.

MILITARY ACADEMY APPLICATIONS: THE TIME IS NOW

If your son or daughter is interested in seeking admission to one of the military academies, they should begin the process of seeking nomination from their senator, congressional representative, or the Vice President *now*. Please let me know if I can assist you in this process. For more information visit the Military page on the College & Career Section of the SC Website.



OREGON CIS

CIS : An Excellent Place to Begin Career Exploration

<http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/>

Santiam Christian subscribes to the computer-based Oregon CIS (Career Information System) program which is a tremendous asset in the career guidance process.

This tool:

- **Houses** the Career Readiness Portfolio which is required for graduation from Santiam Christian
- **Helps** students discover more about their interests and aptitudes
- **Offers** career information, standardized test preparation, and a scholarship data base.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT STANDARDIZED TESTING

(See the attached list of test dates and registration deadlines.)

With the access to testing challenge posed by COVID19 many colleges have changed their testing requirements (some temporarily, and some permanently). **Until all colleges make a universal change, all students should take the PSAT and SAT or ACT during high school.**

Now is the time for juniors to map out their standardized testing schedule for the rest of high school!

PSAT

All juniors will take the PSAT (Preliminary SAT) which will be administered on our campus on Wednesday, October 13. PSAT scores are used to identify National Merit Scholarship Competitors and predict how a student will perform on the SAT. SAT or ACT results are used as a college readiness predictor and are required for entrance into most colleges. Scores are often used as a qualifying gauge for scholarships as well.

Once a student has taken the PSAT, free personalized SAT practice tools based on their results are available through the College Board and Khan Academy.

SAT/ACT

Students tend to be most successful when taking the SAT or ACT in the winter or spring of their junior year or early in the senior year when they have completed the Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II sequence as well as junior English. A student may take these exams as often as they wish and most colleges will make admissions and scholarship decisions based upon the student's highest score.

The newly redesigned SAT was launched in March of 2016. It includes reading, writing and language, and math.

The ACT includes a science reasoning portion beyond the verbal/math test. They offer a writing option as well. *It is recommended that all students take the writing section.*

ACT and SAT practice tools can be found online at www.collegeboard.com or www.actstudent.org.

An important note: Community colleges do not require the exams unless you are dual-enrolled with a four year university, but because *many* students change their minds about college and career choices late into their senior year, ***I think it is advisable that all students take the SAT or ACT at least once*** in order to keep their options open.

FEE WAIVERS

Fee waivers are available for most aptitude tests and college applications based on eligibility for federal free and reduced lunches. *I would be happy to help you attain a waiver if you think you might qualify.*

THE BOTTOM LINE

All juniors at SC will take the PSAT on October 14. They are already registered. All juniors should take the SAT or ACT in the spring. You are responsible for registering. We will be a test site for the SAT on March 12, if your student would like to take it in familiar surroundings. Make sure to register early, to ensure you get a seat.

2021-22 Standardized Test Dates & Registration Deadlines

SAT and SAT Subject Tests

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
October 2	September 3	September 21
November 6	October 8	October 26
December 4	November 4	November 23
March 12	February 11	March 1
May 7	April 8	April 26
June 4	May 5	May 25
August 27 (Tentative)		

(To register and pay go to <http://sat.collegeboard.org/register>)

ACT Test

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
September 11	August 6	August 20
October 23	September 17	October 1
December 11	November 5	November 19
February 12	January 7	January 21
April 2	February 25	March 11
June 11	May 6	May 20
July 16	June 24	July 8

(To register and pay go to <http://www.actstudent.org/regist/>)

Advanced Placement Exams

Exam	Date/Time
U.S. Government & Politics	Monday, May 2, 8 a.m.
Statistics	Thursday, May 5, 12 noon
U.S. History	Friday, May 6, 8 a.m.
Calculus AB	Monday, May 9, 8 a.m.
English Language & Composition	Tuesday, May 10, 8 a.m.

PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)

Exam	Date
PSAT/NSMQT* (Juniors)	Wednesday, October 13

*Juniors at Santiam Christian are required to take the PSAT/NSMQT and are already registered.